

Literature

POEMS EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW.

IN QUEST.

John Greenleaf Whittier is one of America's most famous and popular poets. The following extract is from one of his longer poems, which is justly considered as among the choicest of his many poetical expressions on religious themes:

"The riddle of the world is understood
Only by him who knows that God is dead;
As only he can feel who makes his love
The ladder of his faith, and climbs above
The rounds of his best instincts, draws no line
Between mere human goodness and divine,
But judges God by what in him is best,
With a child's love leans on a Father's breast,
And hears answered, the old crowd's babble still
Of kindly power and dread caprice of will;
Of blessing, prodigal of curse,
The pious dominion of the Universe.
He asked ask for love? Can selfishness
Be to self-denial? Is he less
Than man great law of fatherhood, forsake
And curse his children? Not for earth and heaven
Can separate tables of the law be given.
The rule can bind which He Himself denies—
The truths of time are not eternal lies."

RESOLVE.

To keep my health! To do my work! To live!
To see to it I grow, and gain and give!
Never to look behind me for one hour!
To wait in meekness, and to walk in power!
But always, facing forward to the light,
Always and ever facing toward the right—
Robbed, starved, defeated, fallen wide astray—
On my knees, through I have—
Back to the way!

NOTES.

That there is some reward in novel writing and that there is some truth in publishers' claims to great editions of popular novels issued by them is indicated by the fact that the author of Henry Seton Merriman, the author of "Barbarians of the Guard," who recently died, amounted to more than \$200,000. The royalties from "Barbarians of the Guard," which has sold among the best-selling books in the United States, being sold in small amounts to this total.

Gertrude Albertson's novel, "Rulers of Kings," is in process of being translated into German. Apocryphs of some American criticisms of the book, questioning the accuracy of Mrs. Albertson's accounts of court life, to which she has received numerous letters from Germany and Austria approving the book, especially in its descriptions of royalty.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, who returned immediately to her English home in Kent, has written a new story entitled, "In the Closed Room," which is to be published serially in McClure's Magazine.

Gelett Burgess and Will Irwin, authors of "The Pleasures of Reading," are reported to be meditating a serious novel on San Francisco life. Their efforts so far have been in the comedy spirit, but they believe that San Francisco and the Pacific coast offer more suggestive literary material to the writer than any other place in the world.

Mrs. Craigie's novel, "The Plute of Pan," which she has been engaged for some years, is to be published in September.

L. C. Page & Co. announce a four-volume edition of Disraeli's works.

Mrs. Humphry Ward is still in Italy completing her new novel, "The Marriage of William."

H. Rider Haggard's brother, Colonel Haggard, has just completed a book of French historical memories, entitled "Louis XIV in Court and Camp."

Mrs. Mary E. Wilkins Freeman's new volume of stories, "The Glances," said to be the best she has ever written, will be issued shortly by the London house of Harper & Brothers.

What ought to be a book of great interest is the revised "Life of Renan," by Dr. Barry. The priest's estimate of the French thinker will be looked for with curiosity and will no doubt excite burning discussion.

Mrs. Craigie (John Oliver Hobbes) whose novels have generally dealt with contemporary social life, and especially with fashion, is now writing a historical novel in which Napoleon Bonaparte and Warren Hastings are the chief characters.

The death of Mrs. Humphry Ward's brother, W. T. Arnold, removes "one of the ablest, most accomplished and most active of journalists" from English literary circles. Mr. Arnold was only 51, and though for years disabled by illness, his work was unimpaired. He was "head boy" at Rugby, and a great favorite there. His house was one of the literary centers of Manchester, and he gathered about him some of the best known men and women of the day. He was deeply interested in the work of his famous sister, and it is known that his knowledge of literature was an important aid to Mrs. Ward in writing "The History of David Grieve."

A Henry Savage Landon, author of many books of travel, is a grandson of Walter Savage Landon, the English man of letters. Mr. Landon was born at Florence, and received his education there and at Julian's in Paris as an art student. His career as a traveler began with a tour through Japan, China, Korea, South Mongolia, Tibet, and America, Australia and North Africa. With the true gift of the explorer, Mr. Landon soon turned his steps toward unknown lands. He was the first white man to reach both sources of

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DR. ISAACSON.

The Notorious Religious Fraud and Mountebank.

Many persons will immediately identify the features of Dr. Isaacson, the religious mountebank and fraud who flourished so pyrotechnically in Utah some 12 or 15 years ago. It will be remembered that he became a member of the "Mormon" faith with such unseemly haste as to arouse suspicion on the part of all thoughtful persons. His zeal, too, was decidedly mercurial, up today and down tomorrow. He announced himself a scholar of no mean ability and declared he had a great mission to perform in the field of letters, and at once set about translating the Book of Mormon into Hebrew. Meanwhile he had little good to say of the Hebrew race from which he himself sprang. His religious ardor becoming reduced he engaged in a number of dishonorable transactions and fled from the state, being next heard from in Denver, where he joined one of the Protestant churches with a flourish of trumpets almost as great as displayed in Utah. But his career in the Queen City of the Plains was even briefer in the Colorado metropolis than it was in Salt Lake. He disappeared from there between two days and next turned up in Chicago, where he got into water so deep that he found it extremely difficult to swim ashore. After that his whereabouts became a matter of uncertainty to Utah people. He was occasionally heard from, but always as a religious fakir.

rhetorical sense. But after Balzac's death his works began to be read abroad as well as in France, and foreigners made very light of this shortcoming of his. The man who understands a language well enough to read it, but has not sufficient knowledge to appreciate all its refinements, easily forgives sins of style when they are compensated for by rare and attractive reading. And this was the position of the great novel of the century, the "Le Comte de Montecristo," by Alexandre Dumas, which has been read by millions of people in all languages. The volume consists largely in letters from Manichius written during last autumn, popular in character and packed with interesting facts about the country and the people and the way in which business is done and affairs are carried on. A historical sketch entitled "Prologue to the Crisis," gives a complete account of the Manichian revolution and their history from the earliest days, and of the growth and final meeting of the Russian and Chinese empires with interesting recollections of the Russo-Turkish war. The book will be fully illustrated from photographs.

Gateway series of English texts. General editor, Henry Van Dyke, Princeton University. Edited by William Macdonald, Ph. D., LL. D., Professor of English in the Sheffield Scientific school of Yale university, and Burke's Speech on Conciliation to the House of Commons, edited by William Macdonald, Ph. D., LL. D., Professor of History in Brown university, are the latest additions to this new series, which will include all the college entrance requirements in English. The books before us are conveniently in form, attractively and substantially bound, and printed from clear type. The very reasonable price will make them within the reach of all. The editorial work has been entrusted to scholars of special fitness. Each volume contains a portrait and a biography of the author, and a bibliography of the best interests of English literature, for it incorporates the best that acknowledged experts can do to make the texts easier to understand, more attractive, and more profitable to the young reader.—American Book Co.

BOOKS.

The reviews of Mr. Henry W. Elson's "History of the United States" are progressively enthusiastic. "There is no other equally comprehensive and generally available history of the United States," says the *Bookman*. "In matters of fact, it is fully in line with the results of most modern research. In historical perspective it is particularly strong. What is of highest importance is the fact that the style of writing is singularly lucid, direct and finished," says the *Albany Jay Journal* in an extended review.

Another magazine, The Lutheran of Philadelphia, says that "the book is on the whole not only the best single volume in the English language on American history, but it is also the most interesting—two qualities which are very rare in combination."

"Manchu and Muscovite" is the title of Mr. Putnam Weale's important new book on Manchuria, which The Macmillan company have published. The volume consists largely in letters from Manchuria written during last autumn, popular in character and packed with interesting facts about the country and the people and the way in which business is done and affairs are carried on. A historical sketch entitled "Prologue to the Crisis," gives a complete account of the Manichian revolution and their history from the earliest days, and of the growth and final meeting of the Russian and Chinese empires with interesting recollections of the Russo-Turkish war. The book will be fully illustrated from photographs.

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LIFE HAS WORTH NOW

HAPPY ENDING OF EIGHT YEARS OF WEAKNESS AND DESPONDENCY.

Mrs. Miller Tells How She Succeeded in Recovering Lost Interest in Life—Others May Profit.

"For eight years," says Mrs. Mollie E. Miller of Wilmington, Ohio, "I suffered from dizziness and palpitation of the heart, and after the birth of my little girl five years ago I remained very weak. I was nervous, down-hearted and could not sleep. Every month I lost a full week in prostration that left me scarcely strong enough to drag myself around the house. Whenever that time approached I felt that I was filled with dread. It often seemed to me that I would rather die than live."

"One day last spring a friend of mine strongly recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and I was induced to give them a trial for my troubles. Before I got through the first box I experienced great relief. For the first time in all these years I felt that I was gaining a little strength. I continued to use them with hopefulness, and by the time I had taken four boxes I did not feel like the same woman. The weakness, the melancholy, the restlessness from which I suffered so long have disappeared and life is entirely different. I am glad that I took them myself and I heartily recommend them to others for what they have done for me."

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by Prof. William James: "Petrarch" by H. D. Sedgwick; Massachusetts and Washington (prophecy of Gov. Andrew and Senator Hoar) by M. A. De Wolf Howe, and "Books New and Old" treats of books on American finance. In fiction Robert Herrick's story, "The Common Lot," approaches a dramatic climax. Complete short stories are "Mahalia Joe," a touching Indian story by Mary Austin; "A Disaffected Soul," a psychological study by Annie Trumbull Slosson, and "Ars Amoris," a whimsical character sketch by Arthur Colton. In the Contributors' club appears a sprightly and amusing review of the personally and amusingly written by an ad to original composition.

Israel Zangwill contributed the principal story for the Youth Companion this week. It is entitled "The Red Mark" and is a story of the Ghetto, that portion of London which has furnished much of the material which is a dramatic and a social advantage in his literary work. The special article is entitled "The Cossacks" and is written by the Princess Kuropatkin.

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS.

The following 57 books will be added to the public library Tuesday morning, July 26, 1904:

BIOGRAPHY.
Benson—Rosetti.
Century Association—Clarence King Memoirs.
Colville—Duchess Sarah.
Kraus—William Butler Yeats.
Moore—Dairy of Sir John Moore, 2 vols.
Wolsley—Story of a soldier's life, 2 vols.

Prime Ministers of Queen Victoria, 9 vols.
Campbell—Viscount Palmerston.
Dunckley—Lord Melbourne.
Frederick—Earl of Beaconsfield.
Gordon—Earl of Aberdeen.
Reid—Lord John Russell.
Russell—Right Honorable William E. Gladstone.

McCarty—Sir Robert Peel.
Saintsbury—Earl of Derby.
Traill—Marquis of Salisbury.

MISCELLANEOUS.
Breeze Publishing Co.—Cascos Bay Directory, (reference).
Bryan—Dictionary of Painters and Engravers, vol. 1, 2, 3, (reference).
City of Chicago—Ninth Annual Report of the Civil Service Commission.
Cooper—Chronological and Alphabetical Record of the Engagements of the Civil War, (reference).
Plotz—Epitome of Universal History, (reference).
Strong—Social Progress, (reference).
U. S. Census Bureau—Occupations at the Twelfth Census.
U. S. Interstate Commerce Commission—Seventeenth Annual Report.

FICTION.
Brown—Arthur Merwin, 2 vols.
Brown—Edgar Huntly.
Brown—Jane Talbot.
Brown—Ormond; Clara Howard.
Brown—Wieland.
Cragie—The Vineyard.
Rivers—Cady.
Ryan—Miss Moccasins.
Williams—Price of Youth.

THE NEW STENOGRAPHER.

I have a new stenographer—she came to work today.
She told me that she wrote the latest system.
Two hundred words a minute seemed to her, she said, like play.
And when I asked her at that she never missed 'em!
I gave her some dictation—a letter to a man.
And this is I remember it, was how the letter ran:

"Dear Sir, I have your favor, and in reply would state
That I accept the offer in yours of recent date
I wish to say, however, that under no condition
Can I afford to think of your free lance proposition.
I shall begin tomorrow to turn the matter out.
The copy will be ready by August 10th about.
Material of this nature should not be rushed unduly.
Thanking you for your favor, I am yours very truly."

She told it down in shorthand, with apparent ease and grace;
She didn't call me back all in a hurry.
Thought I, "At last I have a girl worth keeping 'round the place."
Then said, "Now write it out—you needn't hurry."
The typewriter she tackled—now and then she struck a key.
And after thirty minutes this was she handed me:

"Dear sir, I have the favor, and in a reply would state
And I expect the offer as you have reasoned it.
I wish to see however that under any condition
Can I afford to think of a free lance proposition?
I shall be in tomorrow to, turn the matter out.
The cap will be red and will cost 10.
Material of this nation should not rust N. Dooley.
Thinking you have the favor, I am, Yours very truly."

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Meredith's Friends Reassured

Over "The Master" Interview

OUR LONDON LITERARY LETTER.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, July 13.—It is quite impossible to write about literary happenings here without referring to the striking interview with George Meredith, which has just appeared in the London Chronicle. During many years of invalidism the mind of the greatest living writer of English has maintained its brilliancy and its power kept closely in touch with current events, but it was feared by his admirers that Mr. Meredith's recent serious illness might have proved too much for even his amazing mental vitality. The question about his mental health, which has just been settled by the recollection of Box Hill is now seventy-six. No one, however, needs to do more than read this interview with George Meredith to be assured that all is well with the mind that produced "Richard Feverel." Evidently, however, "the Master," as he is called reverently here, will write no more, as he says that since this last illness he has felt "a peculiar disinclination for work of all kinds," and adds that the thought of taking up a pen is "quite abhorrent." But Mr. Meredith says that though his mind "now seems as if it could not give out any more," he is as receptive as ever. And there is no doubt about that. He must read his morning paper with avidity, for we find him perfectly informed upon every topic which the world, and particularly this country, is discussing today. The war in the east, the subject of women's rights, the political situation in England, the question about conscription, the tendency of modern journalism—with all of these topics he is absolutely familiar, and he is equally incisive in dealing with each one of them. But probably it is what Mr. Meredith had to say regarding literature matters that will be read with most interest in the United States.

In modern book-reviewing he finds what he terms "an almost excessive urbanity of treatments." "It seems as if critics were afraid to blame anything," he says. This is particularly evident in reviews of poetry which have been very frequent of late. Our laureate is wrong in supposing people will not read poetry now. It is true that they were never so anxious to read it. They are continually on the look-out for it, and they appear to be receiving a fair quantity which is nearly always praised.

"Critics used to lay about them with a will. To be sure, it was rather a broadsword and bludgeon style. But now, I think, criticism is becoming too urbane. It is true the general level of literature has immensely improved. In my youth we had a few great names—Dickens, Thackeray, George Eliot. I think we have nothing to compare with them now in the front rank. But in the rank close behind the front your attention is certainly much higher than anything we then possessed."

Much of what Mr. Meredith says will be resented in this country. For instance, his declaration that the fear of death is the real cause of the English objection to conscription. "Men come to law," he says, "and say their trade would suffer or they could not spare two years of their apprenticeship."

Relations between authors and publishers being so frequently strained in these days it is worth noting that the late Sir H. M. Stanley named Mr. Marshall, long the leading spirit of Marshall, Low & Co., as one of his executors. Stanley made a lot of money out of the books which this firm published for him, but the comparatively large fortune which he left—\$750,000—is generally regarded as evidence that his frequent visits to the city were not unconnected with stock exchange speculations, in which he showed a rare faculty for discovery, as he did when he found Livingston.

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